

# RESOLVE

Results Through Consensus

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18 December 2002

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** MLPA Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group Members

**FROM:** Debra Nudelman and CA Department of Fish and Game

**SUBJECT:** September 18<sup>th</sup> Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group (RWG) Meeting Summary and Action Items

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Thank you for your participation and efforts at the MLPA Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group (RWG) meeting held on Tuesday, September 18, 2002. This memo includes a brief meeting summary and the following attachments:

*Attachment A* – Roster of Attendees

*Attachment B* – Upcoming Meeting Dates and Action Item List

Please carefully review the attached Action Item list (*Attachment B, Upcoming Meeting Dates and Action Item List*) to ensure we have included all of the agreed-upon tasks and to identify your work areas. Please feel free to contact Debra Nudelman at (503) 228-6408 or at [dnudelman@resolve.org](mailto:dnudelman@resolve.org) or Dave Parker at (562) 342-7179 or at [dparker@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:dparker@dfg.ca.gov) if you have questions or concerns.

### **Welcome, Introductions, Proposed Meeting Objectives and Agenda**

The meeting began with Mr. Dave Parker, California Department of Fish and Game (Department), welcoming the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group (RWG) and observers, providing a context for the meeting and asking all attendees to briefly introduce themselves and state their affiliation.

Ms. Debra Nudelman, RESOLVE facilitator briefly reviewed the proposed meeting objectives, agenda and meeting materials including the draft operating principles, logistics, housekeeping, expectations, and scheduling.

All materials distributed to the Working Group Members will be available in MLPA section of the DFG website. Meeting summaries, not be full meeting minutes, will also be available on the DFG website <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa> after being finalized by the RWG.

It was confirmed that while audience members would not be able to participate in the RWG meetings, they can pass notes to the members or, if necessary, ask that a representative request a break or caucus to discuss an important issue. The Working Group Members may also defer to someone in the audience for a specific response on a Working Group topic. The facilitator will repeat this reminder at each meeting so the audience knows how to effectively participate in the process.

### **Brief Review of the MLPA Regional Working Group Goals, Objectives, Mandates and Responsibilities**

Mr. Dave Parker presented a brief description of the MLPA, referencing the MLPA handout that is included in the RWG notebooks. Assembly Bill 892 extending the MLPA process until January 1, 2005 has passed and been signed by Governor Davis.

Working Group members expressed concern about how their proposed range of alternatives will be transmitted to the Fish and Game Commission. The Department explained that all of the Working Group recommendations will be forwarded to the Director, but that not all recommendations will necessarily be included in the Draft Master Plan. The Department will team provide the first and second drafts of the Master Plan for review to the Working Group to ensure it contains the range of alternative views expressed. Should the Working Groups reach consensus on a preferred alternative, it will send a very powerful message to the Director and Commission.

Working Group Members were concerned about how the Master Plan Team will interact with the Working Group and the Department. The Master Plan Team will assist the Department in developing portions of the Draft Master Plan and will provide expertise and review of the Working Group recommendations for a range of Marine Protected Area alternatives.

The concept of a state-wide committee or steering group was discussed. The facilitator sought input on whether and when to hold statewide meetings. The Working Group members agreed that this should be further discussed at a future meeting.

### **MLPA Regional Working Group Composition and Draft Operating Principles**

The Working Group was asked if all interested parties are represented in the MLPA Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group or if there are any gaps in representation.

Several Working Group members stated that kelp harvesters need to be represented as they can bring good data regarding kelp, water quality, and other issues concerning aquaculture to the table.

*⇒ The Working Group reached consensus to add a kelp seat to the Working Group. The nomination of an individual should be made by the kelp harvester's trade group.*

A question was raised regarding the role of the Coastal Community seat. The Department responded that this seat represented direct interest in coastal community, harbor district, parks and beaches. This seat is made up of a broad group, representing tourists, commercial and recreational fishermen and the general public community.

A question was raised about why National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) was not represented. The Department explained that NMFS is considered an advisor rather than a working group member. They do have a representative seat on the Master Plan Team.

⇒ *The Working Group reached consensus that the Ventura commercial fishing seat, currently vacant, must be filled as soon as possible.*

The Department reminded the Working Group that only one alternate has been formally approved and circulated the alternate information sheet for additions and corrections. Working Group members were advised to contact the DFG immediately with alternate information if not already provided.

### **Draft Operating Principles**

#### Section One – “Purpose of the Marine Life Protection Act Regional Working Groups”

⇒ *Section I was approved.*

#### Section Two – “Role of the Regional Working Group Members/Working Group Structure”

⇒ *Section II, paragraph 1 was amended to read “...incorporated in the final Draft Master Plan that goes to the commission.”*

⇒ *Section II, paragraph 2 was amended to read “...information on how existing or potential MPAs address various...rationale for the MPAs creation, modification, or elimination.*

The issue of whether the Initial Draft Concepts, or any revised concepts, should be made available to the groups was raised and discussed. The Department stated that the Initial Draft Concepts would not be used as a starting point, but that the information behind them and especially the comments about them provided a useful foundation of information. The Initial Draft Concepts are available through the Department offices. While the Department did not stop working last July, there are no approved “revised concepts”. Any information on changes would be conceptual only.

A question was asked on how more can be learned about the Master Plan Team. The Department stated that information is available on the MLPA website and that the Working Group may request that Master Plan Team representatives be available at Working Group meetings.

### Section Three: “Participation”

A Working Group member asked if the alternate of one member can also be designated as an alternate of another member’s seat (in effect, having a second alternate). The issue was that there should be consideration for members that are not compensated for participation, while others are. Most Working Group members objected to having more than one alternate. The request was not approved by the Working Group for the time being.

With respect to alternates attending all meetings, the Department explained that the Operating Principles state alternates must be kept informed. They are encouraged but not required to attend meetings when the member is in attendance.

The Department asked that each Working Group member provide public contact information by filling out the contact sheet. This information will be available to the public and on the website to facilitate interaction between Working Group members and their constituents. Other contact methods, including list-serves and bulletin boards were discussed. The group agreed to further discuss these topics as needed at upcoming meetings.

### Section Five: “Decision Making and Comments”

⇒ *Section V, paragraph 3, was modified to read “consensus is defined as all Working Group members can agree to the recommendation or decision.*

⇒ *Section V, paragraph 4, was modified to read “...opportunities for more than one report so as to ensure that all opinions will be represented.”*

Sections VI through VIII were briefly discussed; no objections to these sections were raised. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Department noted that the even after the Operating Principles are adopted they may be still be revised with the full consensus of the group at anytime during the process.

The facilitator summarized this section by stating that agreed-upon modifications and revisions to the Draft Operating Principles will be made in “redline/strikeout” format and a revised draft would be distributed to Working Group members for their final review and consideration. The Working Group will be asked to finalized and adopt their Operating Principles at the next meeting.

### **Learning about Each Other’s Hopes and Expectations/Developing a Proposed Vision for Marine Resources within Your Region**

Working Group members described why they agreed to participate in the MLPA Regional Working Group process, discussed their hopes and expectations, and began describing their vision for marine resources and the Working Group process. Some of the recurring themes, issues and concerns included:

- Support for process, support of some level of protection.

- Concern that current regulations will not be considered when developing MPAs.
- A need for more science and science that the constituents at the table can all trust.
- Support for starting with small reserves to test effectiveness.
- Concern that future generations will no longer be able to fish; either due to over regulation or a lack of sustainable resources.
- Concern that there will not be money for enforcement, research, monitoring, and management.
- Concern that reserves will negatively impact the livelihood of commercial fishermen, and will have a negative social impact on fishing families and communities.
- Concern that MPAs will not be large enough and not in the best areas to effect positive change.

As the meeting neared its conclusion, the facilitator noted that this was just the beginning of the Working Group's conversations and discussions. Upcoming meetings would provide for significant opportunity to explore the group's interests, topics, issues and concerns.

### **Next Steps, Meeting Summary and Acknowledgements**

The group reviewed potential dates and locations for its next meeting and agreed that the second Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group meeting will be held on December 10, 2002 in Ventura from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Mr. Parker agreed to confirm a meeting location.

The facilitator reviewed and summarized the agreed-upon Action Items (*see Attachment B*) including the Working Group consensus recommendation to add a Kelp Harvesting Seat. The Final Revised Draft Operating Principles will be distributed with "redline/strikeout" of changes for Working Group approval at the next meeting. Working Group members were reminded to submit their public contact information and proposed alternate information to Dave Parker as soon as possible.

RESOLVE will distribute the Action Items, draft meeting summary and revised operating principles via email. Once approved by the Working Group, the meeting summary will be posted on the Department's MLPA web site.

The Department and facilitator acknowledged the Working Group members for their participation and efforts. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

*ATTACHMENT A*

**MLPA Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group  
18 September 2002**

**ROSTER OF ATTENDEES**

Regional Working Group Participants:

1. Ms. Jessica Altstatt, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper
2. Mr. Dan Fink, Recreational Angling
3. Mr. Robert Fletcher, Sportfishing Association of California
4. Mr. Stephen Greyshock, Commercial Fishing
5. Lt. Jorge Gross, CA Department of Fish and Game
6. Mr. Greg Helms, The Ocean Conservancy
7. Mr. Mick Kronman, City of Santa Barbara
8. Mr. Harry Liquornik, Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara, Inc.
9. Mr. Terry Maas, Spearfishing/Consumptive
10. Dr. Rick Pieper, Southern California Marine Institute
11. Mr. Jesse Swanhuysen, Environmental
12. Dr. Robert Warner, University of California, Santa Barbara
13. Mr. Pete Wolf, Recreational Angling

Proposed Alternates/Observers:

1. Mr. Scott Hill, NOAA Fisheries, Long Beach, CA
2. Mr. Benjamin Beede, The Cultured Abalone, Goleta, CA
3. Mr. Jim Mabry, diver from Ventura, CA
4. Mr. Bob Osborn, United Anglers, Huntington Beach, CA
5. Mr. Michael Stiny, United Anglers, Goleta, CA
6. Mr. Frank Sullivan, CA Sport Fishing Coalition, Oxnard, CA
7. Ms. Satie Airame, Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary, Santa Barbara, CA
8. Mr. Allan Naydol, Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA
9. Mr. Michael Summers, California Wild Heritage Campaign, Santa Barbara, CA

Department of Fish and Game Staff:

1. Mr. Dave Parker
2. Mr. John Ugoretz
3. Mr. Fred Wendell
4. Mr. Paul Reilly
5. Mr. Nick Haring, Sea Grant Fellow

Facilitation:

1. Ms. Debra Nudelman, RESOLVE, Inc.

ATTACHMENT B

**MLPA Santa Barbara/Ventura Regional Working Group**

18 September 2002

**Upcoming Meeting Dates and Action Items List**

Upcoming Meeting Dates	Who	Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am - 4:30pm</li> </ul>	MLPA Santa Barbara/Ventura RWG	Ventura National Park Visitors Center ( <i>to be confirmed</i> )

Action Item	Who	When
<p>1. <u>RWG Representation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Per RWG consensus support, recommendation to DFG to add a Kelp Harvesting seat</li> <li>Transmit RWG support that Kelp Harvesters proposing a person for seat to DFG</li> <li>Confirm consensus to add Kelp Harvesting with absent RWG members</li> <li>Fill commercial fishing seat vacated by Chris Hoeflinger's resignation</li> </ul>	<p>RWG to DFG</p> <p>Dave Parker</p> <p>Dave Parker</p> <p>DFG</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
<p>2. <u>Operating Principles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribute revised final draft operating principles with redline/strikeout changes; for approval at next meeting.</li> </ul>	RESOLVE to RWG	By close of business, October 2 <sup>nd</sup>
<p>3. <u>Master Plan Team</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RWG interest in being provided previous information developed by Master Plan Team</li> <li>Confirm process for interactions with the Master Plan Team</li> <li>Confirm composition of Master Plan Team and role for socio-economics expertise</li> <li>Confirm process for how Master Plan Team will "process" recommendations from the RWG</li> <li>Develop methods for accessing "best available science"</li> </ul>	<p>DFG to RWG</p> <p>RWG with DFG, Master Plan Team and RESOLVE</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>Discuss over the next few months and at December meeting</p>

Action Item	Who	When
<p>4. <u>Web Posting of RWG Public Contact Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post information that RWG have approved for public distribution</li> <li>Check in with absent RWG members to obtain web posting information</li> </ul>	<p>Dave Parker, DFG (lead)</p> <p>Dave Parker</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
<p>5. <u>RWG Alternates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RWG members provide their proposed alternates and contact information</li> </ul>	<p>All RWG members to Dave Parker</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p>6. <u>Document Distribution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare and distribute September 18<sup>th</sup> draft meeting summary</li> <li>Confirmed acceptance by RWG to distribute meeting materials, etc. by email.</li> <li>Update RWG roster information as provided</li> </ul>	<p>RESOLVE</p> <p>RESOLVE</p> <p>RESOLVE and DFG</p>	<p>By close of business, October 2<sup>nd</sup></p> <p>As needed</p> <p>As needed</p>
<p>7. <u>December 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed agenda topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussing region/coast areas, existing MPAs</li> <li>October Commission meeting outcomes</li> <li>RWG communication tools (listserv, bulletin board, email group)</li> <li>Schedule upcoming meetings</li> </ul> </li> <li>Proposed background documents/tools include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notebook documents, Marine topos and GIS support</li> <li>Other background reading</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>RESOLVE and DFG prepare proposed agenda and circulate to RWG</p> <p>DFG</p> <p>Bob Warner and other RWG members (provide to RESOLVE for circulation to RWG)</p>	<p>By November 27<sup>th</sup> (no less than two weeks prior to meeting)</p> <p>As provided and at the December meeting</p> <p>ASAP; by November 27<sup>th</sup> (no less than two weeks prior to meeting)</p>